

A World War II Marine Corps veteran, reporter for the Montgomery Advertiser, writer of a statewide political column for nearly 50 years, State Finance Director for Governor Albert Brewer, and respected television political commentator in central and southeast Alabama—Bob Ingram was a man of many talents, unified by his love of politics.

There were no sacred cows with Bob's political commentary. That's why we trusted him. You knew his opinions were well-researched and from the heart.

From Big Jim Folsom to Gordon Persons, Patterson, Wallace, Brewer, James, Hunt, Baxley, Siegelman, Riley—he knew them all. Whatever occurred in Alabama politics, you wanted to get Bob's thoughts. He also brought touches of grace, humor, and humility to his commentary—always realizing the pressures and vicissitudes of human nature in the political arena.

Thank you, Bob, for your love of Alabama and her political institutions. Your indelible mark will be felt as strongly as any public servant. And that's the way we see it.

RECOGNIZING NANCY BERRY FOR  
BEING NAMED TO USA TODAY'S  
2007 ALL-USA TEACHER TEAM

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 24, 2007*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize Nancy Berry for being named to the USA Today's 2007 All-USA Teacher Team.

Nancy Berry is a first grade teacher at Liza Jackson Preparatory School, a charter school in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. She has been an educator for 34 years, which includes five years as a principal.

As the USA Today panel sifted through hundreds of nominations, they judged the teachers on how well they identify and address their students' needs and the impact they have on students and learning. A parent of a former student, Dawn Fisher, was so impressed with Mrs. Berry that she nominated her for this prestigious distinction. Only 20 teachers nationwide were chosen.

Each year Mrs. Berry welcomes her students to "Berryland USA: A Place Where Children Love to Learn." She is known for her gentle encouragement, individualized attention and a plastic, heat-reactive fish to make learning a "self-fulfilling prophecy" for her first-graders. On the first day of class she brings out the fish and tells the children that if the fish curls up in their hand then they are smart, worthy and good. "Children have to have concrete ways of seeing that they are smart or are able to be successful," she says.

Through her hard work and dedication in the field of education, the impact she has had on her students and the difference she has made in their lives has proven her to be among the great teachers of the nation. We are honored and proud to have her as one of our own.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Nancy Berry on this outstanding achievement for her exemplary contribution to the education of our children.

EXPLANATION OF MISSED ROLL  
CALL VOTE NO. 995

**HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 24, 2007*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to offer an explanation of having missed rollcall vote number 995 earlier today. I missed this vote because I was visiting wounded warriors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. I enjoy the opportunity to visit with soldiers from my district, today visiting soldiers from Adrian and Jackson. I believe it is our duty as elected representatives to see to it our soldiers are receiving the proper care and resources needed for their recovery.

Madam Speaker, whereas I missed this vote today, I wish for my constituents to know I did not miss this vote in haste. Rather, I was seeing to the needs of these brave soldiers who represent the best America has to offer. As an avid outdoorsman and conservation I supported the Motion to Recommit H.R. 1483 and, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

ON THE AUDUBON OHIO URBAN  
CONSERVATION CREW SUMMER  
CAP AT THE ROCKEFELLER  
PARK GREENHOUSE IN CLEVELAND

**HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 24, 2007*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Audubon Ohio Urban Conservation Crew Summer Cap at the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse in Cleveland. The Ohio program of the National Audubon Society is working hard to ensure that children in the central city have the opportunity to connect with nature and, in doing so, improve both their educational achievement and their sense of community and self-esteem.

During the recent August recess I had the good fortune to visit the Ohio program of the National Audubon society which is also a program in my own district. The program, a free summer camp for neighborhood children ages 8 to 11, is known as the Urban Conservation Crew. Through this program, Audubon Ohio, in less than five weeks, has succeeded in developing a group of budding scientists who have mastered the fine points of bird identification and behavior, focusing on the birds and plants of their own neighborhood.

Audubon Ohio chose as its location for the camp the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse. The Greenhouse is located in the heart of Cleveland's historic Glenville neighborhood. Owned and operated by the City of Cleveland, the Greenhouse's official function is to develop plants for indoor and outdoor use at other city properties. But the facility includes classroom space, extensive gardens (including a community garden), and a large meadow ringed with mature trees that makes an excellent habitat for birds.

I grew up near the Greenhouse, yet during my visit I learned a lot of new things about it. Chief among these was the fact that the

Greenhouse property immediately adjoins an "Important Bird Area," or "IBA." IBAs are part of an international network of areas that are important to the survival of migratory birds. This network was created by a European-based organization, Birdlife International. Audubon is the Birdlife partner responsible for designating and protecting IBAs in the United States.

The Greenhouse sits next to one of 63 IBAs that Audubon has designated in Ohio. Specifically, it is next to the "Doan Brook/Dike 14 IBA," a key migratory corridor that connects the coast of Lake Erie with the upland Shaker Lakes on the western edge of the Appalachian Plateau. In practical terms this means that a lot of interesting birds pass through the area, with many species nesting in it. This in turn creates an opportunity for children in Glenville to explore an important natural area right near where they live.

From what I saw of the camp, Audubon Ohio is taking full advantage of the location of the Greenhouse and the convergence of a central city neighborhood with an interesting natural area. During the first four weeks of the camp, children walked the Greenhouse grounds and the surrounding neighborhood with Audubon instructors who taught them how to identify birds both by sight and by sound. Audubon also took advantage of the plant life inside and outside of the Greenhouse to teach the children about what plants they could grow in their neighborhood and how the birds of the neighborhood would both help the plants survive by eating pests and, in turn, benefit themselves from the seeds and berries produced by the plants.

During my visit the children showed off the knowledge that they had picked up in only a few weeks. They explained to me the concept of "field marks" of birds and how I could use field marks to distinguish different species. They identified the various body parts of birds and explained how I could distinguish the sexes of different species, such as the Northern Cardinal. They told me what kind of food birds could find around the neighborhood and how people could help birds by supplying this food. And they explained how to protect birds from man-made threats, such as plastic "six pack" holders that, they said, I needed to cut up so that birds would not get their necks stuck in them and choke.

Beyond the knowledge and conservation values that the children were displaying, I was impressed by the passion with which the children were discussing the birds and plants of their neighborhood. I kept having to remind myself that these children were all less than 12 years old, some as young as eight had no previous interest in birds, let alone experience in identifying them. These children were learning complex fundamental scientific techniques, including observation, distinction, grouping by similarities, understanding food chains and identifying threats and barriers. Introducing children to birds and plants was a great way of teaching them science by drawing on children's inherent desire to explore and understand the natural world around them.

Cleveland is blessed with a number of outstanding institutions that have offered nature-based education to children over the years. These include our fabulous Metro Parks network as well as stand-alone institutions such as The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center and the